

PATENT SLIP & DOCK COMPANY
AND
NOVELTY IRON WORKS,
No. 62, PRAYA WEST,
MACHINE, BOILER, AND BLACKSMITH
SHOPS
IRON AND BRASS FOUNDRIES.

The Undersigned is now prepared to take
on large Vessels for PAINTING and RE-
COPPERING; also large RIBPAIRS to Hulls
and Machinery, &c.

A Large Assortment of Spars and Lumber,
Iron and Copper Plates, Iron and Sheet Metal,
Pitch, Oakum, and Felt, Sheathing Metal and
Nails, Rivets, Screw Bolts and Wood Screws
always on hand.

Boats and Steam Launches built to order.
H. C. BAILLIE,
Manager.

Office, Novelty Iron Works, Praya West,
Hongkong, 26th July, 1876. [No. 1148]

BIRTHS.

At Hongkong, on the 2nd instant, the wife
of GEO. MURRAY BAX, of a daughter.
At Macao, on 27th ultimo, Mrs. E. VOOR,
of a son. [1474]

At Ningpo, on the 27th September, the wife
of J. M. LAND, of a daughter. [1465]

MARRIAGE.

At the British Residency, Beigaid, on the
13th July, Mr. V. A. T. ALEXANDER, Gray,
of Ching-tung, China, Winsome, Mrs. E. VOOR,
Esq., Commander of H.M.S.S. *Dorothy*,
Bombay Marine to EUGENE SOPHIE, young
daughter of A. HOLLOWAY, Esq., of Bagdad. [1454]

DEATH.

On the 2nd instant, at his residence, Holly-
wood Road, Hongkong, DANIEL RICHARD
FRANCIS COWDRAY, aged 55 years.

The Daily Press

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 14TH, 1876.

The strength of the Chinese Government
rests in the ignorance of its subjects.
Wherever the people come into contact with
Western civilization, Western manners, and
Western ideas they almost inevitably lose
much of their innocence and awe of their
own rulers. The most intelligent natives in
the Treaty Ports have imbibed more liberal
sentiments than those residing inland, who
have never seen foreigners, and derive their in-
pressions of them from fanciful, ill-tempered
officials who interest it is to paint them as
evil, contemptible, and cowardly. Hence
it is that so much apparently causous hos-
tility is frequently exhibited towards for-
eigners compelled by business or of-
fession occasionally to travel into the
interior. Hence it is, too, that a native
paper called the *Yipao*, recently established
at Shanghai, asserts that "the general feel-
ing of the people is unfriendly to foreigners,
and the tendency of the latter to go up-
country can only lead to quarrelling and
trouble." The experience of travellers who
have visited remote districts, where their
presence had not been expected, and the
people's minds not poisoned
against them is unanimously to the effect
that the country folk, who are naturally
orderly and peace-loving, feel animosity
to strangers, but on the contrary receive
them most courteously. It is rarely, except
when invited by those above them, that the
inhabitants of the interior are guilty of in-
sulting or molesting foreigners. Nearly all
the numerous outrages that have been per-
petrated during the past nine months could
not doubt be traced to the malice of the
mandarins. The mob has besides always
been a convenient instrument by which the
Chinese Government has been enabled to
vent its ill will upon obnoxious Europeans.
But it is not correct to say that the people are
unfriendly to foreigners. They are prejudiced
against them by the discreditable stories
brutally told by those who are supposed to be
acquainted with them. Left to themselves they
would display no disinclination to welcome
the stranger to their midst.

As an instance of how grossly facts are
perverted in China in order to foster suspicion
of foreigners, and make the worse appear
the better cause, may be noticed the state-
ment put into the mouth of "a loyal old
man" by the *Yipao*. In this strange
effusion, which is about the Yunnan
tragedy, Mr. MARGARY is represented as
a treacherous breaker of the peace and Li
SIAO a meritorious individual. The former
is, with what foundation does not appear,
assumed to be guilty of leading Indian
soldiers and surreptitiously attacking the
country, though without the authority of his
Government, and is therefore deemed to have
richly deserved the fate he met with. On the
contrary, Li SIAO is held worthy of praise
for killing him, and as a recognition of his
good conduct should, according to this
writer, in the event of hostilities breaking
out between England and China, be entrusted
with the command of the Chinese forces, and
the more English be successful in killing the
greater should be his reward at the close of
the war. This is certainly a cool suggestion,
and if it were not strongly spiced with the
hazardous would be provocative of indignation.
But it is only worthy of contempt. The
journal in which it appears is neither in-
fluential nor respected. It is chiefly noted
for the obscurity of the anecdotes with which
it is in the habit of regaling its readers, a
species of mental papalum only too well
appreciated in China. This is, however,
probably but a sample of the stories which
have been spread about the Empire with
reference to the present difficulty between
England and China. The British are
represented as unscrupulous, lubricious,
shirking most impossible, injurious, and
unjust acts as the price of peace, while
the Peking Government is depicted as
anxious to preserve peace, and therefore
willing to use every effort to show its
irrational enemies that their demands are
contrary to justice and reason. Probably it
was from a newly-aroused sense of hatred of
the foreigners that the village mob of Li
SIAO and his adherents, and hustled an inoffensive foreigner
laid the other day. The outrage is otherwise
unexplainable. The Chinese authorities
had better be careful how they work upon
this material. There is no fury so blind,
senseless, and unreasoning as that of a mob.
It is comparatively easy to restrain it, but it
is extremely difficult to restrain it afterwards.
Such deeds as the Tsin-tien massacre are due
to the hounding on of the rabble, and
looked on the abominated tenant as their
bogey. The case was one for the Civil Court
of Summary Jurisdiction, and he would have to
discharge the prisoners.

A STRANGER.

Ascanian named ALGER, belonging to H.M.S.
Widgeon, was ashore on Tuesday, was
brought up as a stranger.

He was sent on board H.M.S. *Viceroy*
Emmanuel.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.

A man named Chin Aye was charged with
the unlawful possession of a piece of iron.

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in default, three month's hard labour, and
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